NEW SONG OF THE SKIRT

It Dominates the Dance of Fashion Just Now.

CAPRICES OF THE SEASON.

Wide Variety and Dainty Effects Features of the New Trimming.

Longth One of the Qualities Bequired in the Fashlonable Skirt-Trimmed Skirte in Great Profusion Among the Lately Imported Medols-The Redingote Style One of the Latest Fancies in Paris-Variety of the Uses and Bilinds of Buchings Which Flourish in Bress Deceration-Double and Triple Skirts Seen -Satis Conte That Match Light Cloth Skirts -Attractive Wool Canvasce Among the New Spring Costumes-Sashes, Sleeves, Collars, and Other Features of Bress.

It is the song of the skirt with many variations that dominates the dance of fashion just at the mement, and which particular mood will lead in favor is one of the puzzling questions in dress that time only can answer. It is evident however, that length is one of the requisite qualities of a fashionable skirt. Foreign fash ien budgets report that street gowns in Paris are worn long all around, not only at the back, which trails several inches on the ground, but also at the sides and in front. When tailor gowns assume the right to a small train, long skirts seem indeed inevitable, unless women rebel against them, and to wear this style of skirt successfully it is necessary to acquire the art of picking it up at the sides as the Parislans do. It is a simple matter to manage the length in house gowns, but to be graceful in the street while trying to pick up the superfluous inches is



among the lately imported models. Rows upon rows of lace insertion encircle the skirts of foulard and taffeta gowns, as well as those of transparent materials. In some models the deep circular flounce is almost entirely composed of alternate bands of silk and lace insertion, either black or white. When the lace has a straight edge it is finished with a tiny frill of narrow edging or gathered baby ribbon. This sort of trimming is applied to organdy as well as silk gowns. One elegant imported costume of black taffeta has several rows of black chantilly insertion around the circular flounce, beginning at the upper edge and leaving a wide hem of the silk at the bottom. The bodice and sleeve are also encircled with rows of insertion, of which all the edges are finished with a frill of narrow lace. The lining is of dull rose silk, showing prettily through the lace insertion.



The redingote style of skirt, opening in fron the very latest fancies in Paris. It is made in serge combined with spotted foulard silk for the front, bodice, and facings on the revers of the short serge cost. The sides of the skirt fall-ing over the silk front are edged with braid or gelloon. Thin silk gauze and nun's veiling gowns are also made in this way with a full front of mousseline de sole or figured net shirred down fully ten inches below the waist line. Tiny ruches up and down the sides and around the bottom are the skirt trimming.

A detailed description of the use and varied kinds of tiny ruchings which flourish in dres decoration would fill a volume, and literally miles of this popular trimming adorn our new frocks. It is made of chiffon, tulle, gause rib bon, and pinked silk, in all colors, varying a lit tle in width, according to the mode of using it, and also of narrow lace edging in both black



and white. Very narrow ruches of black tulis are especially effective in pale blue, pink, and green organdles, and the chief expense, of cours; is in the labor. They edge the ruffles



or are put on to simulate the redingote style of skirt, extending around the bottom as well. Ruches of chiffon and gauze ribbon edge the flounces in simple foulard silks and decorate the most elaborate gowns of jetted embroidered net with equally good results.



Skirts are not only trimmed from waist to hem with every possible variation of the mode, but there are double and triple skirts among the gauge and net dresses. For ex ample, over the silk foundation skirt there is a skirt of chiffon elaborately shirred from the waist down below the knee and povered with another skirt of net. This may be lecorated with some of the many squirming designs carried out in plain or gathered ribbon, or trimmed with wide lace insertion outlining either side of the front, and a frill of lace edging at the bottom, but whatever the trimming the inner skirt of chiffon adds wonder fully to the effect. One authority on fashion tells you that the ruling style of skirt trimming is in vertical lines, to give the long, slender effect



so much desired, but your own observation of newly imported models confirms all previous statements in regard to the caprices of fashion, and all kinds are in order. True lovers' knots o lace insertion, with the material cut out under neath, spread their graceful shape over the front and sides of some of the thin gowns, and twine in and out among yards of ribbon on others. Surely this is a ribbon season, a lace season, and every other kind of season which can be specified by variety in dress trimmings. One of the prottiest of all the decorations for the light cloth gowns so much worn is a satincovered cord about as large as a small pencil. The satin is put on plain, matches the cloth in color, and is sewn on the skirt and coat in a simple trefoil pattern, as if it were braid. It is made still more effective by tring a knot in the cord at regular intervals. This kind of trimming decorates a gown of fawn cloth so light in tint that it is almost white. It is arranged in a simple pattern around the bottom of the skirt, two or three inches from the edge, and again around the hips in apron form. The coat is of satin of the same color, with a band of cloth around the bottom outlined with the satin-cord design. The revers are faced back with satin braid in fine tucks.

Satin coats matening the light cloth skirts eve.

gowns, but they are extremely elegant and dressy in the delicate shades of gray and fawn in which they appear. Other odd effects in cloth gowns of light color are produced with plaid ribbon and steel beads, which decorate the white satin revers. The ribbon is nearly an inch wide folded through the centre and stitched on at one side in rows, between which there is a tiny embroidery of steel beads. Very dressy waists of chiffon, lace, net, and silk are perfectly correct with these light cloth skirts.

The most attractive gowns among the new spring costumes are those of light wool canvas. silk and wool veilings, and foulard silks. They are dressy, dainty, and feminine from the neck to the hem, and in soft, neutral colors, almost as serviceable as the tailor gown. The latest models in these materials are cut in princess form, varied with belero jackets and sashes of some contrasting color and material. The princess, with the bodice draped crosswise in front, surplice fashion, and fastened at one side with a rosette, is one of the modifications of the mode. Above the folds is a yoke of lace, chiffon, or tucked white silk. Some of the prettiest Doucet models are made in this princess style, with a sash of chiffon ribbon or silk and a yoke of white chiffon, which also forms the very meagre little puffs that fashion permits at the top of the sleeves. This gives the long shoulder effect for which we are striving.



Apropos of sashes, it is evident that they are o flourish in full feather on our summer gowns. Fancy striped ribbon of medium width is as anged in two long ends with no loops, to fall rom underneath the belt at one side of the back of a black net gown; wide sashes of chiffon and liberty gauge with ruffled ends or frills of gathered ribbon appear on other gowns, and quite the prettiest of all are the sashes of cream ace trimmed across the ends with frills of colored satin ribbon.

Another feature of dress which can be very useful in renovating o'd gowns is the sleeve of different material from the bodice—not just anything that comes along, however, for the sleeves must be of handsome lace, fine embroidery, chiffon, or jewelled net, or something which is a part of the trimming on the gown. Still another thing you notice in the new gowns is the collar band, which is often without any frills at all; and, sgain, you see little pointed bars of silk, velvet, or lace like the band itself directly at the back. The very latest whim is to cut the band a little wider, in slightly pointed shape, at either side of the fastening in the back, to give the effect of an extra finish, which is so becoming, and add a narrow frill of lace inside.

Collars, as well as belts, are fastened with lewelled buckles both front and back, and s



tong as the collar band is wide, at the back, little distance spart. If the band is made of a novel departure in the line of cloth | chifforn la total you arrange it with a little,

puff between the buckles, the effect is goo Buckles and fancy buttons are both very mucl in evidence on the new gowns, where anything



and everything decorative seems to run riot. White satin ribbon covered with a braiding of black soutache outlines the upper edge of the circular flounce on a brown canvas gown, and



urquoise blue silk and velvet combined with the braided ribbon complete the bodice. Some of the many uses of narrow ruchings as dress trimmings are shown in the illustrations An evening dress of black spotted net has in



numerable rows of ruches in plain net, while gown of pink liberty satin shows ruches of pink chiffon, a wide lace insertion, and lace sleeves. A dressy gown of cream muslin tucked and trimmed with lace is made over primrose silk. Scarf draperies of lace outline the tablier front and tucked cream muslin covers the single rovers, finished with a lace

frill around the edge. One of the novelties in skirts is shown in another model of blue and white checked grenadine where cream lace forms the circular flounce at the side and ruches of blue chiffon finish the edges. The lace flounce is set in, not on, the grenadine, and forms a part of the skirt itself rather than a trimming. Chiffon ruches are the feature of the next gown in foulard silk, and of still another made of nun's veiling with one of the new tablier fronts of cream lace shirred down below ruches trim the podice. Pea green silk forms the fancy bodice, which is shirred into corded pipings. White satin covered with lace is introduced underneath the waved bands of corded allk, and tucked satin with lace frills completes Puffings of chiffon with a lace stitch or nar-

row lace insertion between form the yoke and sleeves of another silk bodice. The material of the next model is a pale shade of fawn cloth. The skirt trimming at the head of the flounce is an acorn design in padded appliqué of the cloth, while the bolero bodice, very short in the back, is of white net, closely covered with a pattern in turquoise blue baby ribbon. The vest is of white talle and the revers are embroidered with white baby ribbon. The bolero of lace, embroidered with a mixture of chenille and ribbon, is one of the novel features of summer gowns, made of light cloth as well as silk. and you may complete this style of bodice with a cloth vest if you will. One use of black velvet



ribbon is displayed on a gown of green glace silk with flounces and bodice of green mousseline de sole. A pretty bodice of heliotrope glace shows corded tucks in groups, and is completed with a white tucked satin chemisette collar, and revers which are covered with an embroidery of silk flowers. The back view of the tunic skirt is shown in the next model, while the front simply rounds down to the edge of the skirt like a huge apron. Another novelty in skirts is the double effect, or blouse overdress, carried out in royal blue cloth, trimmed with bands of white cloth covered with lace appliqué.

HER CHANCE TO SAVE BELLE. The Tall Woman Lest It When the German

The German couple were in the car when the tall woman entered. She was accompanied by a younger woman, and they took seats directly opposite the man and his wife. Between the Germans, and on the seat, was a fancy wicker basket, and every now and then the woman would lean over it and say something in a low caressing tone. Finally the two women opposite began to converse, and immediately there was a commotion inside the basket which the German woman did her best to stop. The basket rocked from side to side, and at last an end of the cover was raised and a dog's head was thrust out. The tall woman grabbed her companion's arm and almost shricked:

'There's my Belle!" At this the dog made frantic efforts to get out of the basket, and it appeared as if it had rec ognized the woman. Without waiting for anything further, the tall woman asked of the couple, both of whom were trying to jam the dog's head out of sight:

"Where did you get that dog?"
The man made no reply and his wife simply shrugged her shoulders.
"That is my dog that I lost over a month ago,"

ontinued the tall woman, "and I want it right The couple conversed in German for a few

continued the tall woman, "and I want it right now."

The couple conversed in German for a few moments, and then the man said:

"You make some mistakes. My wife she has had this dog for many years."

"No, I'm not mistaken," said the tall woman in a voice that showed her anger was rapidly rising. "It is a female dog, and she is not over two years old."

Then she began to call softly, "Belle," "Belle," and at each call the dog renewed its efforts to get out of its cage. The basket rocked from side to side and finally toppled over and fell on the floor, and the dog squeezed out under the cover. Both women made a grab for the pug, but the German woman was too quick for them. The dog was put back in the basket, and this time the cover was tightened securely. Then the accusations from the tall woman and denials from the German were continued, much to the amusement of the other passengers.

Seeing that talk was useless the tall woman turned to her companion and said:

"I'll follow them when they get off, find out where they live, and then I'll get Belle if I have to go to court."

This was evidently intended for a whisper, but every one in the car could hear it. The German and his wife began to talk in their own language. After a while they made preparations as if they were about to leave the car. The two women opposite gathered up their skirts, prepared to follow. The German signalied to the conductor that he wanted to get off. Then taking the basket containing the dog he started for the door. Right behind him and closely followed by her companion was the tall woman, but the German is wife and stift belied him and closely followed and stood waiting for the German's wife and stift when it was the didn't come. The conductor pulled the bell cord, and as the car started with a rush the German, tightly clutching the basket, jumped aboard again, leaving the tall woman and her companion standing in the street. They called and gesticulated willdly, but the conductor was not looking their way, and in less time them it has the



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A Hint from the Klondike

Joseph Ladue, the famous trapper and miner and the present owner of Dawson City, and for many years the agent of the Alaska Commercial Company, gives a hint to persons going to Alaska. He writes:

"I have always used the Royal Baking Powder in Alaska and Northwest Territory, as no other gave equal satisfaction in that harsh climate. I also found my customers always insisted on having that brand."

This hint should be taken by every housekeeper. The qualities which make the Royal the only baking powder profitable to use in the Klondike are quite as important and valuable in a baking powder used at home. These qualities are peculiar to the Royal, and make it the best for use everywhere.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER OO., NEW YORK.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Sashes of white satin ribbon are worn with pale gray and light fawn gowns. The ends are cut round and trimmed with some sort of lace. point, possibly, if you can afford it.

Black taffeta silk gowns are well represented in the early importations of French models, and they are made very dressy with rows of lace insertions showing the colored lining through

Cravats made of rose pink glace silk trimmed across the ends with three rows of narrow gathred violet ribbon, with a two-inch space between the rows, are striking bits of color in the department of neckwear. Other neck scarfs of silk are trimmed on the ends with hem-stitched lawn, and a narrow collar of lawn turns over the tucked silk neckband.

The latest novelty in petticoats to wear with vening gowns is made of soft muslin in pink. blue, or yellow, patterned with dainty rosebuds. It is made with a deep flounce, trimmed round and round with valenciennes insertion in straight or Vandyke form, and the number of frills or lace at the foot is limited only by the

White swiss and organdie are used as a substitute for chiffon in some of the accessories of dress. For example, tucked swiss appears as a covering for revers in chemisettes and collar bands, large collars and yokes on children's woolgowns, while other yokes are a succession of tiny platted frills of swiss. Frills of batiste and white organdie edged with black lace or baby ribbon trim the grown-up gowns, and the finest of mull embroidery is used for trimming both wool and silk.

Velvet belts studded with jewelled medallions, and leather belts dotted all over with turquoises and cabochons of various colors, add their brilliant rainbow tints to the long list of novel-ties in fancy belts.

Dog collars of pearls, and coral beads of the old-fashioned irregular shape, fastened with jewelled buckles, are still worn with dressy afternoon cowns, as well as with the square décolleté theatre waists, and they are some-times made of filagree silver and jet.

The new spring wraps, so far as they have been displayed, are very dressy expensive confections of colored silk or brocade, covered with lace and chiffon ruffles edged with tiny ruches. in shape they are either round and short, fiaring out over the shoulders, or long at the back and rounding up in front in a quaint, old-time manner. These novel garmonts are made of colored chiffon, shirred around the shoulders and finished with three or four ruche-edged ruffles at the bottom, which taper to a point where they meet the shoulder shirring.

Striped silks of bright blue, green, and red, with plenty of orange, display their gorgeous colors among the new parasols, but the prettiest of all the stripes are the black and white. The special elegance of many of the new parasols is confined to the lining, which is chiffon shirred into puffings, or a deep ruffle of lace.

The Empire tortoise-shell comb, set in below the knot of hair at the back, is a useful as well as stylish ornament.

White serge gowns are made very striking with a bodice of taffeta in some bright color, laid in tiny box plaits from neck to belt. The sleeves and a wide collar are of serge, and the skirts are quite plain.

Moiré grenadine made over moiré silk forms very effective gowns when trimmed with bias bands of black satin. White chiffon over white or colored Liberty moiré is an exquisite combi-nation for a dressy costume.

THIS AFTER SOROSIS!

an Address by Another Member to the Woman Who Had Been Saving Herself.

All the mean things that women are said to say to one another are not the inventions of the writers for the comic weeklies. Just after the meeting of Scroeis the other afternoon, when the last few sisters were going down from the Astor Gallery in the elevator, this conversation was overheard by every one in the car. The woman addressed was one whose name is fa-miliar to everybody that has followed the rivalries and campaigns of New York's politicians in women's clubs. The other was a woman who has been in these clubs just as long, but has not attained such celebrity. The more famous of the two bowed to her sister and smiled sweetly. "Wby. Mrs. Blank," said the other, "I hadn't seen you before, and I'm so glad that you could

seen you before, and I'm so giad that you could come."

Just a shade of questioning surprise passed over the face of the woman addressed; the explanation followed hard upon.

"I've thought, you know," said the other, "that you have been rather saving yourself lately. A good many ye'rs ago, when we were all of us ever so much younger than we are now, you used to go to everything, and you used to have a part in everything, too, and I've said to have a part in everything, too, and I've said to have a part in everything, too, and I've said to have a part in everything, too, and I've said to have a part in everything, too, and I've said to have a part in everything, too, and I've said to have a part in everything to have live aid to have a part in everything to have how in the world Mrs. Blank could keep up with so many clubs and societies as she did and carry so much of the work through. Now, I have always been a faithful attendant at these meetings, but I have never permitted inyself to be so overburdened with work as you did: you are so good natured, you know. But as I say, lately I've noticed that you have been saving yourself a good deal."

By this time they were on the sidewalk of Thirty-fourth street. The "woman who had been saving berself" waited until she saw which way the other woman was going then she said, "Good evening" very stiffly, and went the other way.

A SHOPPER'S TROUBLES.

Lecturers in Department Stores-Crushed by a Plaurwalker.

"I don't wonder that real manly men object

to tagging around with wife, or sister, or sweetheart, on a shopping excursion," said a tired, mussed-up, and thoroughly disconsolate little woman the other day. She had been trod on she continued, "by great big women, who simply elbow a little person like me out of the way of the bargain counters, and then I have been held up and crushed to boot."

Invited to tell her troubles in detail, the little
woman went on: "Well, I wish the managers of these big stores had to go around in petticoats just once. They'd sympathize with us women then. To-day I wanted especially to look at some new spring goods, challies and so on, you know. Then I had to so on, you know. Then I had to visit the corset department as well. Right there I was held up. The storekeepers, it appears, allow manufacturers of proprietary articles to put their goods on exhibition and to send a young girl or man along in the canacity of lecturer, or barker. I struck three of these department store lecturers to-day. One delivered a long

harangue to me on the hygienic excellencies of a corset she exhibited; another dwelt on the virtues of a new skirt lining, and a third almoss browbeat me into buying a new bicycle. Oh, I was mad clear through.

"That was not the worst of it," continued the hectored shopper. "I happened to think, while in one of the largest department stores, that we needed a box of poker chips at home, just to use for fun, you know, in our little social games of hearts and eachra, Well, I asked one of the salesmen to direct me to the proper department. He graciously turned me over to an imposing floor walker, one of the most impressive of his class. He looked positively shocked when I asked him? Where do you keep the playing cards and poker chips?

"Madam, he sternly replied, poker chips and playing cards are not permitted to be sold in this establishment."

"I stammered out, "Well, you have a celluloid department, don't you? Maybe I can get the chips there."

"That awful man stroked his flowing whiskers caressingly, towered above poor little me, and crushed me completely. I had added, "I know I can get them at So & So's (naming a big store on Sixth avenue), and I thought I might, that is. I trade here, and—and— That was as far as he allowed me to get.

"Yes, madam, he said, 'poker chips and other gambling devices may be had at So-and-So's, but not here. Good-day."

"I know I looked like a guilty, hunted, cheap gambler. I must have. I sneaked out of that store and forgot all about the correits and the spring dress goods," concluded the shopper.

Pick-Up of a \$5 Bill Cost the Finder \$93.64.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer. A well-known railroad man passing along Seventh street one day last week found a \$5

bill on the sidewalk. Thereby hangs a romance which should be heard from the finder's lips to be appreciated. When he discovered the greenback he quickly jammed it into his yest pocket saying:

"Now, I'll just get that new hat I need, which I haven't been able to buy up to this time. This bill will just pay for it!" The bill did pay for the hat, but it didn't pay

for the \$2 pair of gloves he bought on the strength of his find. When he went home to dinner he laid an elegant two-pound box of fine candy in his wife's hap and said, with a kies such as he had not given her since the days of their honex mean.

as he had not given her since the days of their honeymoon:
"Guess what I found to-day?"
"I couldn't, my dear."
"No, I don't suppose you could. Well, I found a \$5 bill and I thought I could afford to be a little extravagant upon the strength of it. I paid \$2 for that candy, box included. Then I got two of the be t seats for the theatre to-night, and couldn't we afford a little supper afterward! Bou the me an elegant new white silk necktle and the cutest and neatest little nearl pin, and if you want a new pair of evening gloves you can have them. It isn't even'day I find a \$5 bill."
"No, thank heaven, it isn't!" said his wife to herself, and, as she said it still more fervently, he added:
"I bought the lovellest little bit of bric's-brac

he added:
"I bought the loveliest little bit of bric-a-braat an auction sale I happened to run into. It was a bargain at \$5. I'd have had to pay at least \$8 for it at a regular sale. Lucky I found hat \$6 just in time to pick up such a bargain with it. I wouldn't have felt that I could have afforded the thing at all it I hadn't found the money to pay for it."

forded the thing at all it I hadn't found the money to pay for it."

"How did you happen to buy that little sewing chair you sent home to-day!"

"Oh, that! Well, I heard you say the other day that you wanted one when we could afford it, and when I saw that in a window to-day, with a card on it, saying that it was only \$5. I thought if we couldn't afford it when I just found \$6 we never could afford it, so I ran in and bought it."

And when he had hought \$93.64 worth of things with that \$5 his anxious wife broughs him to a halt by saying one evening:

"Where did you find that \$5 bill, George!"

"On Seventh street."

"Well, here's an advertisement in the evening naper stating that a poor widow lost \$5 on Seventh street Tuesday morning. I haven't a doubt that the bill found, was hers, and the poor woman must have it back again."

And she got it, to the railroad man's chagris and disgust.



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